

REMARKS

This communication is in response to a newly formulated Restriction Requirement dated December 15, 2006. In response to a previous Restriction Requirement dated July 7, 2006, the Applicants provisionally elected claims 1-23 and 45-49 (Species I) for further prosecution on the merits.

In the newly formulated Restriction Requirement, the Examiner required election between Group I (claims 1-23 and 45-49), Group II (claims 24-32) and Group III (claims 33-44), and required a further election of Species I, II or III if Group I were elected.

In response to the newly formulated Restriction Requirement, the Applicants reiterate their previous provisional election of claims 1-23 and 45-49. More specifically, the Applicants provisionally elect, without traverse, Group I (claims 1-23 and 45-49). The Applicants further provisionally elect Species III. Claims 1, 16-23, 45, 46 and 48 of Group I are readable upon the provisionally elected species III. The Applicants note that claims 2-15, 47 and 49 will be entitled to consideration upon an allowable generic claim, currently claim 1. The Applicants reserve the right to reintroduce the non-elected claims in one or more divisional applications at a later date.

Conclusion

The Applicants invite the Examiner to telephone the undersigned, Applicants' attorney, at 516-203-7270 to facilitate the prosecution of this application. If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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